

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please add the following claim:

28. A method for identifying fluid purification equipment which is optimized for use in a particular fluid purification system, which comprises:

providing a relational database of specifications regarding a plurality of equipment components from which selection of individual components may be made;

providing access to said database through an interactive interface of an operating system comprising a series of sequential inquiries, response to each of which determines a next inquiry to be posed or a component to be specified, said inquiries eliciting defining information regarding said particular fluid purification system;

using said defining information to identify those of said components which, when assembled to form said fluid purification equipment in a manner specific to said particular fluid purification system, can be operated so as to optimize fluid purification in said particular fluid purification system; and

providing an option to purchase said fluid purification equipment.

**REMARKS**

The Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful analysis of the application and claims. Claims 1-27 are pending in the application. All of the claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C §103(a) for being obvious in light of Chang (US Patent 5,873,263) in view of Boston (US Patent 6,041,263). Chang teaches process and equipment for a single method of fluid purification and Boston teaches a method and apparatus for optimizing a plant model. The Applicants submit that the